

Mount Wachusett Community College

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NEW CAMPUS COMPLEX OPENS ITS DOORS



The new Mount Wachusett Community College complex opened its doors on September 16 as President Arthur F. Haley welcomed the largest freshman class in the College's history, 764 students.

Although extensive landscaping work is still progressing and some of the laboratories and special purpose classrooms are not quite ready for occupancy the students and faculty were unanimous in their pleasure with the new building.

Among the features of the new 273 acre complex is an outstanding media facility which includes three audio studios and two color-equipped television studios, and three dining areas which provide the students with a comfortable and well lit lounge area. The three floor library is designed to store 70,000 volumes and provide 500 students with study space. In addition, there are a multitude of classrooms, lecture halls, large well-equipped laboratories, and 95 faculty offices.

MWCC is probably the only college in Worcester County with complete facilities to accomodate handicapped students,

particularly those who need wheel chairs or special apparatus to engage in the college experience.

While the college was being built, the State Department of Public Works expanded and improved Route 140 from a point just south of the new college to the junction of Route 12, five and a half miles beyond the campus. This improved approach enhances the exterior of the new campus considerably and blends into the rolling countryside.

The 232,000 square foot core facility's completion marks the end of stage one in the \$21 million new campus building plan. The second phase of construction is now underway and the two-level 41,000 square foot fine arts wing is scheduled for occupancy in January, 1976.

The center will include a 546 seat theater, costume and prop workshops, practice room, classroom, three art studios and faculty offices. A special design feature of the wing is its location as part of the main college structure but with a separate and easy entry for the community while the rest of the building is closed.

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Phebe Smith Heads New Learning Center

Phebe Smith has been appointed as Director of MWCC's new Learning Center. For the past two years Ms. Smith served as a staff assistant at MWCC and worked with Project Start, the college's state funded program for disadvantaged students, and coordinated the basic skills courses.

"The Center", Ms. Smith states, "will fill a real need for those students who need additional work outside of the classroom in order to improve their skills in the basic areas of English, reading or math. It also provides an opportunity for students who have been out of school for a number of years to refresh their academic skills at their convenience."

Among the services offered by the Center are programmed, self-paced materials in basic and advanced academic skills. For example, units are available for the students in areas such as basic math, fractions, decimals, business math, algebra, study skills, listening techniques, English grammar, preparation for the GED, psychology, sociology, vocabulary skills and reading improvement.

The Center also offers a tutoring program in which advanced students tutor other students on an individual basis, in basic skill and course requirement areas. This service is offered without charge to the student.

Assisting Ms. Smith is Sharon Ahlers, a 1972 graduate of Mount Wachusett's Mental Health Technology Program. Ms. Ahlers has had tutoring and teaching experience with special-need students at a residential treatment center for adolescent girls. And as a former Mount student she has the advantage of being familiar with the college's programs and course requirements.

Phebe Smith expressed her appreciation for "the excellent support that the Center has received from the faculty and administration, many of whom have donated both time and materials."

"We have had enthusiastic response from the students in the first few weeks," Ms. Smith adds, "and I hope we will soon be able to offer programs and services of interest to every student at the college."

"In the future we hope to offer supplementary materials, developed in conjunction with the faculty of the college, which will "supplement" the material offered in the classroom, as well as enrichment materials which will allow

a student to pursue areas of personal interest such as basic chess, personal typing, and use of the slide rule."

Prof. Anastos Attends Master Teachers Seminar

Editor's Note: Each year MWCC selects a faculty member to attend the National Seminar for Master Teachers held at Westbrook College in Portland, Maine. Assistant Professor Aspasia Anastos was this year's representative. The following is a brief excerpt from her report to the faculty

The eight days spent at the National Seminar for Master Teachers were pleasurable and rewarding. The living accommodations were very comfortable, food and drink were excellent, and Maine provided a warm welcome with eight days of the best New England weather for community college teachers who came from all parts of the United States, Anchorage, Alaska to Florida.

The format of the seminar was informal, although each part of the day was carefully scheduled from 7:45 A.M. breakfast to 9:00 P.M. closing session. Two and a half hours each afternoon and one free day on the weekend allowed for enough time for any sight-seeing one might want to do.

Approximately ninety teachers, all from two year colleges (mainly community colleges) participated in the seminar. The participants were divided into five discussion groups, each group led by staff discussion leaders.

The discussion group was comprised of people from various disciplines, geographical distribution and colleges whose enrollment ranged from under 1000 students to over 14,000 students. We found that community college teachers have much in common, no matter what the subject taught, no matter where or how large the school. The main concern of teachers is how to get students to learn and how to help them by means of effective advising.

The philosophy of the conference was exemplified by the diverse nature of the disciplines represented, English, history, psychology, hotel restaurant management, economics, food and lodging, automotive technology, philosophy, etc., and can best be stated by one of Alfred North Whitehead's quotes which was distributed to us:

The antithesis between a technical and liberal education is fallacious. There can be no adequate technical education

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Goldfader Appointed Director of Admissions



Sidney Goldfader

President Haley has announced the appointment of Sidney Goldfader as Director of Admissions. Mr. Goldfader was on MWCC's student personnel services staff in 1968 and 1969 and has spent the last four and one half years as Director of Alumni Relations at Brandeis University.

In discussing his role at the college, Mr. Goldfader states that he will concentrate on "consolidating the admissions procedures, informing area high schools of our progress and programs, and exerting every effort to enroll a student body in keeping with our educational goals."

In returning to the Mount, Mr. Goldfader brings a well rounded background in academic administration plus a perspective of both the community college system and the major liberal arts university.

"An often repeated student complaint at Brandeis was that after 5 P.M. it was difficult to find an adult on campus! I believe that the community college goal of close student-faculty contact is well founded and most important."

"It is my observation that two kinds of learning take place at college. The first is between the student and his teacher, both inside and outside the classroom. The second comes in the students' relationships with each other. I expect that the new campus, which brings a physical consolidation of our facilities, will also bring a sense of personal unity and cohesiveness to the school."

Mr. Goldfader resides in Worcester with his wife Cara and three children. He is a alumnus of Brandeis and earned his graduate degree at Assumption College.

Exxon Corporation Awards Grant to MWCC

The Exxon Education Foundation has awarded Assistant Professor Gerald O'Brien a \$6,000 Impact grant. This grant, the college's first from a private corporation, is being used to introduce the unique teaching technique, "guided design," in the Earth Science course.

Earth Science is a survey course of the basic principles of geology, meteorology, oceanography, paleontology, and astronomy. Approximately 300 students take the course each year as their science requirement.

Mr. O'Brien states that his goal in adapting the guided design method to his course is "to enhance the student's decision making ability, to increase the motivation of students to learn on their own, to increase the student's knowledge of his relationship to the earth sciences, and to make the student aware of how the scientist deals with a problem."

The course consists of projects selected from the major study areas. The class meets for six hours each week in three two-hour sessions. One session will be used for evaluation of the group's work that week.

The remaining two sessions are meetings in which the students exercise their options to meet in groups to discuss the current project, meet with the instructor for guidance, receive feedback information, assign group activities and report on progress to the entire section on a particular solution to the project.



Forty thousand dollars worth of cafeteria food-processing equipment from the old Elm Street campus was donated to Gardner by the MWCC Student Council. The presentation was made to Mayor Steven Erickson (right) by sophomore class officers Robert Fontaine and Dean Pratt while President Haley looked on.

Professor O'Brien competed nationally with over 1,000 other educators to receive the grant which is one of six awarded by Exxon.

Teachers Seminar

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which is not liberal, and no liberal education which is not technical: that is, no education which does not impart both technique and intellectual vision. In simpler language, education should turn out the pupil with something he knows well and something he can do well.

CAMPUS NOTES.

Mount Wachusett Community College was among the 20 New England two year colleges that participated on September 30 and October 1 in Springfield in a two day discussion of affirmative action. The conference was sponsored jointly by the New England Consortium of Community/Junior Colleges and Technical Institutes and the College and University Personnel Association.

While geared to the affirmative action programs of community colleges, the conference was open to administrators of other public agencies and institutions of higher learning.

This past summer Assistant Professor Thomas Malloy was a member of the visiting faculty at Columbia University. He was among twelve people selected nationally to take part in a six week seminar in Ethnic and Racial Studies. Funds for this seminar were provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The purpose of the program was to give college teachers of Ethnic and Racial History an opportunity to study with specialists in the field. The fact that Columbia is located in New York City further provided an opportunity for members of the seminar to study first hand the ethnic diversities of a major city.

Each participant also undertook individual research projects. Professor Malloy's project was to write a TV script on the Ethnic History of the Greater Gardner area. This will become one of six television programs on local history to be produced by Professor Malloy this coming spring.



Cross Country Is Added To Athletic Program

Cross Country has been added to Mount Wachusett's intercollegiate athletic program this fall. Coaching the runners is MWCC Director of Athletics Richard Rollins.

Dr. Rollins credits Jim Brehio, one of the team members, with the initial development of cross country at the Mount. "Jim dropped by my office one day last Spring and asked if it would be possible to have a cross country team next Fall. I replied that it was possible, if sufficient interest were shown. The next afternoon, Jim handed me a list of twelve names, six students currently attending the College who would be returning in the Fall and six high school seniors who had been accepted for the September, 1974 class."

Dr. Rollins is very optimistic about the team. "It's a new sport at the new campus and the members of the squad have an outstanding attitude. I'm confident that they will prove a fine addition to our athletic program."

The seasonal goal for the cross country team is the New England Invitational Meet scheduled for Saturday, November 2 at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, Massachusetts. This New England meet will be sponsored by Region III of the National Junior College Athletic Association, which MWCC has joined for the first time this year.

Membership in the NJCAA, Dr. Rollins states, will serve to expand the scope of the present intercollegiate athletic program at MWCC, as Region XXI sponsors New England wide tournaments in Cross Country, Soccer, Basketball, Hockey, Golf, Skiing, Tennis, and Baseball.

As a member of the Association, MWCC teams and individual student-athletes are eligible to compete in these Regional Tournaments with the possibility of advancing to Inter-regional and National Tournaments. A primary advantage of these tournaments is that individual student-athletes may qualify for regional and national competition in Cross Country, Golf, Tennis, and Skiing even though a team itself may not.

The NJCAA was formed in 1938 and is made up of over 550 two year colleges divided into 21 geographical regions across the United States. The New England Region, XXI, is one of the newest, having been formed August 1, 1973. The purpose of the NJCAA is to promote and foster junior/community college athletics on regional and national levels, consistent with the total educational program of its members.

Dr. Rollins serves as the Service Bureau Director of the NJCAA New England Region. During the summer he was also elected to a two-year term as Secretary of the Massachusetts Community College Athletic Conference. The MCCAC is the official governing body for the Massachusetts Community College systems' Intercollegiate programs.

New Campus

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The theater is designed to provide an appropriate setting for dramatic productions, concerts, distinguished visiting lecturers, and community meetings. It will have a hydraulic stage lift which allows platform to serve as a thrust stage, as an orchestra pit, or as a space for additional seating.

The third phase of construction, the field house and swimming pool, is expected to be underway by November 1.



Athletic Director Dick Rollins (center) leads runners (l to r) Ron Burch, Drew Duplessis, Paul Dorian, and Mike Levine during a daily work out.